

Vocabulary

col•an•der

noun

a perforated bowl used to strain off liquid from food, esp. after cooking.

drought |drout|

noun

a prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall; a shortage of water resulting from this.

- [usu. with adj.] figurative a prolonged absence of something specified : *he ended a five-game hitting drought.*

- archaic thirst.

knap•sack |'nap,sak|

noun

a bag with shoulder straps, carried on the back, and typically made of canvas or other weatherproof material

ab•sent

adjective

1 not present in a place or at an occasion : *most students were absent from school at least once | absent colleagues.*

- (of a part or feature of the body) not forming part of a creature in which it might be expected : *wings are absent in several species of crane flies.*

2 (of an expression or manner) showing that someone is not paying attention to what is being said or done : *she looked up with an absent smile.*

na•ive

adjective

(of a person or action) showing a lack of experience, wisdom, or judgment : *the rather naive young man had been totally misled.*

- (of a person) natural and unaffected; innocent : *Andy had a sweet, naive look when he smiled.*

- of or denoting art produced in a straightforward style that deliberately rejects sophisticated artistic techniques and has a bold directness resembling a child's work, typically in bright colors with little or no perspective.

musk

noun

1 a strong-smelling reddish-brown substance that is secreted by the male musk deer for scent-marking and is an important ingredient in perfumery.

- a similar secretion of another animal : *civets habitually deposit tiny amounts of musk.*

2 (also musk plant or musk flower) a relative of the monkey flower that was formerly cultivated for its musky perfume, which has been lost in the development of modern varieties. • Genus *Mimulus*, family *Scrophulariaceae*: several species, in particular *M. moschatus*.

re•me•dial

adjective

giving or intended as a remedy or cure : *remedial surgery*.

- provided or intended for students who are experiencing learning difficulties : *remedial education*.

mel•a•nin

noun

a dark brown to black pigment occurring in the hair, skin, and iris of the eye in people and animals. It is responsible for tanning of skin exposed to sunlight.

bur•gun•dy

noun (pl. -dies)

a wine from Burgundy (usually taken to be red unless otherwise specified) : *a glass of Burgundy* | *elegant red burgundies*.

- a deep red color like that of burgundy wine : *warm shades of brown and burgundy* | [as adj.] *burgundy leather*.

rit•u•al

noun

a religious or solemn ceremony consisting of a series of actions performed according to a prescribed order : *the ancient rituals of Christian worship* | *the role of ritual in religion*.

- a prescribed order of performing such a ceremony, esp. one characteristic of a particular religion or church.

- a series of actions or type of behavior regularly and invariably followed by someone : *her visits to Joy became a ritual*.

adjective [attrib.]

of, relating to, or done as a religious or solemn rite : *ritual burial*.

- (of an action) arising from convention or habit : *the players gathered for the ritual pregame huddle*.

lin•ger

verb [intrans.]

stay in a place longer than necessary, typically because of a reluctance to leave : *she lingered in the yard, enjoying the warm sunshine* | *she let her eyes linger on him*

suggestively.

- (linger over) spend a long time over (something) : *she lingered over her meal.*
- be slow to disappear or die : *the tradition seems to linger on | we are thankful that she didn't linger on and suffer.*

po•di•um

noun (pl. -di•ums or di•a)

a small platform on which a person may stand to be seen by an audience, as when making a speech or conducting an orchestra.

- a lectern.
- a continuous projecting base or pedestal under a building.
- a raised platform surrounding the arena in an ancient amphitheater.

stew•ard•ess

noun

a woman who is employed to provide meals for and otherwise look after the passengers on a ship or aircraft.